

February 2020

# The Month Ahead

## At Innova

When Samantha was introduced to Classical Christian Education, she immediately recognized the value in its methodology and curriculum. Samantha has predominantly taught in the primary division and this year teaches the JK and SK class at Innova Academy. Samantha attended Tyndale College and University and graduated with a Bachelor of Education. Her goal was to teach in a Bible believing Christian School and she is excited to be teaching at Innova Academy. Samantha has been married to her husband, Andre, for over 20 years and they have three children. In her spare time, she is involved in her church choir and worship team and volunteers in the nursery. Her favourite Bible verses are Colossians 1:15-17.



Samantha Jung  
Teacher

Senior  
Kindergarten



Senior Kindergarten  
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*Senior Kindergarten is a time of magical growth where children learn foundational knowledge and skills to develop a life-long love of learning. Students will listen to wonderful selections of classic children's literature and respond through engaging hands-on activities. We are committed to developing the whole child by providing a pleasant environment for children to take chances and explore. Above all, we strive to lead children to taste the joys of being a child of God and grow in their understanding of serving Him.*

**Christian Education:** In Senior Kindergarten, the overarching theme is God's care and love for His people. Through our study of Scripture, students will understand that God's plan for the world includes all nations. This month, topics include:

- Elijah, the prophets of Baal, the fiery chariot, and the Shunammite woman
- Elisha and Naaman
- Hezekiah
- Jonah
- Nineveh saved

Memory Verse: Psalm 25:1-3a "To you, O Lord, I lift my soul; in you I trust, O my God. Do not let me be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me. No one whose hope is in you will ever be put to shame."

**Language Arts:** Each month, students will explore stories, poems, songs, chants, and hands-on activities related to the monthly themes. This month's themes are transportation, community, Valentine's Day, and bears. Literature selections include, *Construction Workers* by Quinn M. Arnold, *Transportation Now and Then* by Robin Nelson, *Short History of Valentine's Day* by Sally Lee and *Bears* by Thea Feldman. Using various tactile means as well as songs and chants, students will:

- Review and practice letters and their sounds
- Write and copy sentences into a journal
- Practice proper letter formation
- Use of word(s) surrounding an unknown word to figure out its meaning
- Learn about story structure, recalling details, comparing and contrasting characters, making inferences, and predicting events
- Review all single letter sounds, digraphs and trigraphs: *ow, ck, ee, or, er, oy, ed, oo, ou, ay, oi*
- Learn beginning consonant blends: *bl-, cl-, fl-, gl-, pl-, sl-, br-, cr-, dr-, fr-, gr-, pr-, tr-, shr-, thr-*
- Memorize sight words: *next, my, friend, goes, anything, begin, down, know, after*
- Learn vocabulary related to community, transportation, Valentine's Day, and bears

**Culture/Geography:** Students will learn about India and Saudi Arabia. Objectives for this month include:

- Locating India and Saudi Arabia on a map as well as identifying Riyadh, the capital city of Saudi Arabia
- Recognizing India and Saudi Arabia in the continent of Asia
- Learning about the Taj Mahal, spices of India, the importance of elephants in their culture, and how to say hello in Hindi (Namaste)
- Learning about clothing (kaftan and ghutra) in Saudi Arabia and how to say hello in Arabic (Salam)

## SK – The Grammar Stage

Innova Academy's grammar school curriculum builds a solid academic foundation, emphasizing mastery of facts and fundamental skills. Grammar stage students have the natural ability to retain large amounts of information, so Innova intentionally builds knowledge across the curriculum immersing students in a holistic, unified, and rich learning experience. Students are actively engaged in learning while applying skills they have previously acquired to new, expansive content. Classrooms are filled with singing, chanting, movement, and engaging hands-on activities. Strong habits of heart, mind, and soul are reinforced, as students become more aware of their impact on others and build skills in self-governance and responsibility.

**Mathematics:** This month in mathematics, students will continue to explore numbers using various hands-on manipulatives, songs, and chants. Topics this month include:

- Counting numbers 0-100 out loud
- Reading and writing numbers 0-20
- Comparing numbers and collections
- Breaking down numbers 11-20
- Finding differences between sets up to 10 and up to 20
- Combining sets up to 20
- Addition to 10

**Science:** This month in science, students will discover the topics of matter, energy, and hibernation. They will explore various hands-on activities and experiments and learn about:

- Matter and space
- Freezing temperatures
- Hibernation
- Canadian animals that hibernate during the winter
- Animals that live in the Arctic

**Art:** Students will focus on drawing people and faces using simple shapes. They will also learn how to use stencil printmaking to create a Valentine's card for someone special. Emphasis this month will be on:

- Line and Texture: Using a variety of lines to create textures
- Shape: Using simple shapes to build pictures

**Music:** Students will continue to practice their skills with unpitched percussion and singing. This month, there will be a stronger emphasis on pitch matching, keeping a steady pulse, and understanding rhythmic notation. More specifically, students will explore:

- Half notes and half rests
- Good singing tone and correct pitch matching
- Rhythmic patterns on unpitched percussion instruments
- The cello

**Physical Education:** During physical education time, students will have opportunities to develop spatial awareness, balance, and coordination using their bodies and a variety of equipment. Throughout the year, students are led to develop good sportsmanship while playing games with their classmates. This month's focus includes:

- Skill building activities around kicking and dribbling
- Using bean bags and large and small balls
- Kicking to targets

*Please note that although students in different grades often study the same topic, curricular expectations are tailored to individual grade levels.*

## Upcoming Events

- February 3 – ACSI JR Boys' Basketball Tournament (Gr. 4-6) – Toronto
- February 5 – ACSI JR Girls' Basketball Tournament (Gr. 4-6) – Scarborough
- February 7 – Exordium and Literature Day (All Grades) – North Campus
- February 10 – Parent Night (All Parents) – South Campus
- February 14 – PD Day – No School for Students
- February 17 – Family Day – No School
- February 20 – In-School Speech Meet
- February 27 – ACSI Public Speaking Festival – Mississauga

Innova Academy aspires to graduate young men and women who will possess the virtues, wisdom, knowledge, and skills necessary for further academic study.